

Education Career Pathway

MISSOURI ECONOMIC RESEARCH & INFORMATION CENTER
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
MARCH 2021

What are Career Pathways?

Career Pathways are groups of occupations within a career field. Occupations within a pathway share common skills, knowledge, and interests. The pathways use industry-recognized credentials and are examples of how different levels of training or education can help provide opportunities for career advancement.

Missouri Numbers:



4,238 Employers



218,439 Workers



\$48,795 Average Wage

Why Have a Career in Education?

Education professionals are preparing today's students to be tomorrow's workforce. The Education industry has over 4,000 employers in both the public and private sector that provide jobs to 218,439 workers. Wages in this industry averaged \$48,795 in 2019. Employment in the Education industry has remained steady over the past five years, decreasing just under 0.2% from 2014 to 2019. Education represents 9.1 percent of all public and private sector employment.

From Office Support to Instructors and Administrators, there are a variety of job opportunities in the Education sector. High wages and projected growth make Education occupations a good career choice in Instruction, Support Services, Professional Support Services, and Administrative & Business Support.

Know the Basics

Most employees in the Education sector interact with students and others on a daily basis so being able to communicate effectively, both individually and in groups, is necessary. Being able to work with co-workers as a team is also important. For instructors, knowledge of subject matter, the ability to adapt teaching methods and materials to meet student's needs, and the ability to evaluate student's work and progress are important. Soft skills, such as interpersonal skills, professionalism, and dependability, are important in all industries, including Education.

Skills needed for Success:

There are several ways to become a certified educator in Missouri. In addition to the traditional route of completing student teaching and receiving a bachelor's degree in the field of education, there are alternative routes to certification available. An individual with a bachelor's degree in a content area, such as Mathematics or English, can return to a college of education for a program of study that may enable them to take courses and teach simultaneously. In certain middle and high school subjects, an individual with a bachelor's degree can complete a program of study from the American Board of Certification for Teacher Excellence (ABCTE), pass their specific test and be certified. Current certified teachers can also add new areas of certification by taking Missouri Area Content Exams.

Who's Hiring in Missouri?

Washington University
University of Missouri
Saint Louis University
Missouri State University
Local School Districts



Instruction

Professional Support Services

Now

Short-Term On-the-Job Training

Childcare Workers

Entry: \$18,900; Average: \$23,230

Certificates: Child Care Provider/Assistant**Library Assistants, Clerical**

Entry: \$18,630; Average: \$23,560

Skills: Library Resources, Customer Service, Clerical Duties

Next

Certificate, Associate Degree, Apprenticeship, Moderate- to Long- Term On-the-Job Training

Teacher Assistants

Entry: \$19,520; Average: \$26,810

Preschool Teachers, except Special Education

Entry: \$23,190; Average: \$30,760

Certificates: Child Care and Support Services Management
Degrees: Early Childhood Education and Teaching**Library Technicians**

Entry: \$24,660; Average: \$31,480

Occupational Therapy Assistants

Entry: \$50,090; Average: \$58,940

Physical Therapist Assistants

Entry: \$44,310; Average: \$52,700

Degrees: Occupational Therapist Assistant, Physical Therapy Technician/Assistant

Later

Bachelor's Degree or Advanced Degree

Elementary School Teachers

Entry: \$37,890; Average: \$50,920

Secondary School Teachers

Entry: \$37,610; Average: \$50,980

Special Education Teachers, Secondary School

Entry: \$38,440; Average: \$47,990

Degrees: Teacher Education, Special Education and Teaching, Elementary Education**Instructional Coordinators**

Entry: \$50,390; Average: \$64,620

Registered Nurses

Entry: \$51,770; Average: \$64,160

Librarians

Entry: \$39,970; Average: \$54,510

Degrees: Nursing, Curriculum and Instruction, Library Science, Psychology

Sources:

Burning Glass Technologies Labor/Insight™ tool

Employment and Training Administration, Competency Model Clearinghouse

2019 Occupational Employment Survey Wage data, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Top employers data is based on 2020 online job ads.

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Support Services

Administrative & Business Operations

Now

Short-Term On-the-Job Training

Janitors and Cleaners, except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners

Entry: \$21,580; Average: \$28,140

Food Preparation Workers

Entry: \$18,740; Average: \$23,540

Security Guards

Entry: \$26,800; Average: \$39,160

Certificates: Truck and Bus Driver/Commercial Vehicle Operator, Certified Protection Officer**General Office Clerks**

Entry: \$23,920; Average: \$33,990

Receptionists and Information Clerks

Entry: \$22,530; Average: \$28,300

Data Entry Keyers

Entry: \$27,770; Average: \$33,010

Certificates: Business Administration Certificates

Next

Certificate, Associate Degree, Apprenticeship, Moderate- to Long-Term On-the-Job Training

Maintenance and Repair Workers, General

Entry: \$20,020; Average: \$39,740

Food Service Managers

Entry: \$34,400; Average: \$55,670

First-Line Supervisor of Housekeeping & Janitorial Workers

Entry: \$29,890; Average: \$40,610

Certificates: Restaurant, Culinary, and Catering Management/Manager**Certificates:** Building Maintenance, ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification**Secretaries & Administrative Assistants**

Entry: \$27,530; Average: \$36,210

Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks

Entry: \$31,420; Average: \$39,890

Computer User Support Specialists

Entry: \$36,210; Average: \$49,740

Degrees: Business Administration & Management, Accounting, Computer Science

Later

Bachelor's Degree or Advanced Degree

General & Operations Managers

Entry: \$53,390; Average: \$101,110

General & Operations Managers

Entry: \$53,390; Average: \$101,110

Human Resources Specialists

Entry: \$44,340; Average: \$63,750

Degrees: Business Administration & Management**Degrees:** Business Administration & Management, Human Resources Development

Sources:

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